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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/692,375	10/22/2003	Cynthia L. Martin	200208380-1	8427
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EXAMINER GARCIA, GABRIEL I				
ART UNIT 2625		PAPER NUMBER		
NOTIFICATION DATE 09/08/2009		DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

JERRY.SHORMA@HP.COM
ipa.mail@hp.com
jessica.l.fusek@hp.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/692,375

Applicant(s)

MARTIN ET AL.

Examiner

GABRIEL I. GARCIA

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 8/14/09.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3, 4, 6-13, 30, 34-41, 45, 46 and 50-56 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3, 4, 6-13, 30, 34-41, 45, 46 and 50-56 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Part III DETAILED ACTION

1. This application has been examined. Claims 1,3-4,6-13,30,34-41,45-46 and 50-56 are pending in this application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 3,4, 6-13,30,34-41,45-46 and 50-56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hasegawa (5,534,974).

With regard to claim 1, Hasegawa teaches a method of limiting access to a media tray comprising: defining a target pass code (e.g. tray ID) associated with a media tray of a network device (reads on fig. 1 and col. 4, lines 14-29) by selecting the media tray and receiving the target pass code from a user via a user interface associated with the network device (e.g. reads on fig. 1, item 110 and figs. 2-8, and col. 4, lines 37-44, clearly the panel 110 can display the information and fig. 5 depicts how information can be displayed to the users, and the user can input the pass code using the interface)); and restricting access to the media tray to print jobs (e.g. job ID or user ID) having the target pass code (reads on figs. 2-8).

With regard to claim 3, Hasegawa further teaches wherein selecting the media tray includes loading the media tray (e.g. reads on fig. 2-3).

With regard to claim 4, Hasegawa further teaches wherein defining the target pass code further includes, upon selecting the media tray, requesting a target pass code be entered via the user interface (reads on figs. 2-8).

With regard to claim 6, Hasegawa further teaches receiving a print job accompanied by the job pass code (e.g. col. 6, lines 59-67, user ID or job instruction).

With regard to claim 7, Hasegawa further teaches where the print job is not accompanied by the job pass code, prompting entry of the job pass code (reads on fig. 7).

With regard to claim 8, Hasegawa further teaches wherein prompting entry of the job pass code includes prompting display of a message requesting entry of the job pass code on a print job originator (reads on fig. 7).

With regard to claim 9, Hasegawa further teaches receiving the job pass code from the print job originator (reads on fig. 7).

With regard to claim 10, Hasegawa further teaches receiving the job pass code via a control panel associated with the print job originator (reads on figs. 6-8)

With regard to claim 11, Hasegawa further teaches restricting access to the media tray includes: comparing the job pass code to the target pass code; and

permitting the print job access to the selected media tray when the job pass code corresponds with the target pass code (reads on figs. 6-8).

With regard to claim 12, Hasegawa further teaches receiving a selection of the media tray from a print job originator; sending a message to the print job originator (reads on fig. 7) and requesting confirmation of a characteristic of the print job corresponding to the selected media tray; and upon receiving confirmation from the print job originator, setting the job pass code to have a predefined relationship with the target pass code (reads on figs. 2-8).

With regard to claim 13, Hasegawa further teaches requesting confirmation of a characteristic of the print job includes broadcasting the characteristic to the print job originator (reads on fig. 4, which allows the system to inform the user)

With regard to claim 50, Hasegawa further teaches wherein the job pass code includes an alphanumeric string (reads on figs. 2-4).

With regard to claim 51, Hasegawa further teaches wherein the target pass code includes an alphanumeric character string (reads on figs. 2-4).

With regard to claim 52, Hasegawa further teaches providing a screen prompt in a user interface associated with the media tray on a network terminal in communication with a printing device that includes the media tray (reads on figs. 2-8 and col. 4, lines 21-29) .

With regard to claims 53-54, Hasegawa further teaches the user interface comprises a control panel provided on the network device (e.g. col. 4, lines 21-29, the network device could be a network printer, terminal within the network or the server).

With regard to claim 55, Hasegawa further teaches automatically setting the target pass code based on the sensed characteristic includes identifying the media with the target pass code (reads on fig. 6, which depicts that based on characteristic (or attribute) such a paper size the ID is set)

With regard to claims 30-41,45-46 and 55, the limitations of claims 30-41,45-46 and 55 are covered by the limitations of claims 1-13 above.

Conclusion

3. *With regard to Applicant's arguments. Applicant asserts that prior art of record teaches the claimed limitations as recited in the amended claims.*

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Schaefer et al. (2006/0220308) teaches a tray locking system for accepting sheets.

Shibata (2001/0000360) teaches a printing system having an improved job security function.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gabriel I. Garcia whose telephone number is (571) 272-7434. The Examiner can normally be reached Monday-Thursday from 7:30 AM-6:00 PM. The fax phone number for this group is (571) 273-8300.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on (571) 272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

/Gabriel I Garcia/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2625

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Art Unit: 2625

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Gabriel I. Garcia
Primary Examiner
August 30, 2009